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HPV Vaccine Acceptability

September 7, 2012



A collaborative study including Dr. Juan Luque at Georgia Southern University Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health examined human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine acceptability among latina farmworkers. The purpose of the study was to identify the barriers and benefits to HPV vaccination in a low-income, Latina farmworker population in central Florida. The study reports on formative qualitative research conducted on perceptions of benefits, barriers, costs, place, and promotion related to HPV vaccine from surveys and interviews with a sample of 46 low-income, Latina farm workers and 19 health care workers serving this population.

The researchers found that Latina farmworkers hold many misperceptions about the HPV vaccine and the potential links between HPV infection and cervical cancer. In addition, it was observed that HPV vaccination intention was inversely related to concerns about adolescent sexual behavior and low perceived risk of infection but might be positively influenced by belief in illness prevention and physician recommendation.

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